

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action, dated June 3, 2004, Applicants have modified the claims in this Amendment. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 rejections set forth by the Examiner. Applicants submit that the references of record whether considered alone or in combination fail to either teach or suggest Applicants' presently claimed invention.

Applicants' invention is directed to methods and systems which create a three-dimensional (3D) navigation mechanism utilizing two-dimensional (2D) information and existing navigators. Specifically, 2D information such as, for example, a plurality of uniform resource locator (URL) addresses are converted into textures which are mapped onto surfaces of a 3D object. Additionally, in an alternate embodiment, an event associated with an image is intercepted and information pertaining to the event is automatically modified on a geometric surface of a 3D object. This is advantageous because it provides methods and systems which utilize 2D information and navigators to create a 3D navigation experience. The present invention is far superior to the present systems which require creation of a 3D world which work in conjunction with a 2D navigator.

The references of record fail to teach or suggest these advances in the art. Marrin et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,808,613, is directed to a 3D navigator which works in conjunction with a 2D browser to browse a 3D world specifically created by using virtual reality modeling language. See Col. 3, lines 49-59. Marrin et al. describes a 3D navigator such as the Webspace Navigator to view and navigate a 3D world created in virtual reality modeling language. See Col. 4-Col. 5. This is substantially different from the present invention which

is directed to a method and system which utilizes URL information, converts the information into textures and maps the same onto corresponding surfaces of a 3D space. Marrin et al. describes specifying a single chosen URL as his or her home scene. See Col. 14, lines 10-12. However, this is akin to a user designating a home page which is displayed when a user opens a browser. Consequently, Marrin et al. simply does not teach obtaining and converting URL information into a plurality of textures and mapping the textures onto corresponding surfaces of a 3D space. Marrin et al. simply provides that the user may select a 3D URL object to access the underlying data. Marrin provides no teaching or suggestion whatsoever concerning the mapping of multiple URLs on a plurality of surfaces of a 3D space.

In addition, Marrin et al. simply does not teach or suggest interacting with multiple URLs mapped onto surfaces of a 3D object, intercepting an event associated with the interaction, locating the geometric surface associated with the event, and computing the position of the geometric surface on the 3D object. Marrin et al. is merely directed to systems and methods for navigating a 3D world created by specialized programming languages such as virtual reality modeling language. In fact, Marrin et al. simply discloses accessing a URL in a 3D space. Marrin et al. neither teaches nor suggests the advances in the present invention.

Bardon et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,081,271, is directed to a system which computes the camera position with respect to a particular object in a 3D environment. See Col. 3, lines 13-37. Bardon et al. describes that the perception of a three-dimensional display on a 2D surface is effected by visual cues such as perspective lines, obscuring distant objects with nearer objects, and showing changes in objects as a viewer moves towards or away from the object.

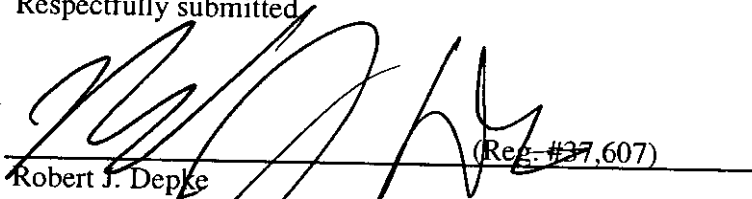
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Preliminary Amendment Accompanying RCE

See Col. 4, lines 38-48. Bardon et al. simply does not teach converting a URL into at least a texture and mapping the same onto a 3D object. The references of record fail to teach or suggest the advances set forth by the present invention.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn. Applicant respectfully submits that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,


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